

**FLOOR SCHEDULE FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 2014**

HOUSE MEETS AT:	FIRST VOTE PREDICTED:	LAST VOTE PREDICTED:
<b>10:00 a.m.: Morning Hour</b> <b>12:00 p.m.: Legislative Business</b>  <b>Fifteen "One Minutes"</b>	<b>3:00 – 4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>5:30 – 6:30 p.m.</b>

\*\*Members are advised that following last votes, the House is expected to consider general debate of H.R. 935. Any recorded vote requested will be postponed until tomorrow.

**H.Res. 694 – Rule Providing for Consideration of both H.Res. 676 – Providing for authority to initiate litigation for actions by the President or other executive branch officials inconsistent with their duties under the Constitution of the United States (Rep. Sessions – Rules/House Administration) and H.R. 935 – Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act (Rep. Gibbs – Transportation and Infrastructure) (One Hour of Debate).** The Rules Committee has recommended one Rule which provides for consideration of two pieces of legislation.

For H.Res. 676, the Rules committee has recommended a closed Rule that provides for one hour of general debate equally divided between the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Rules. The Rule does not provide for a motion to recommit, and waives all points of order against the legislation.

For H.R. 935, the Rules committee has recommended a closed Rule that provides for one hour of general debate equally divided between the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure. The Rule allows one motion to recommit, and waives all points of order against the legislation.

The Rules Committee rejected a number of Democratic amendments aimed at providing transparency and disclosure related to the costs associated with any lawsuit filed by the Speaker on behalf of the House. The Committee also rejected a motion by Ms. Slaughter of New York to amend the Rule for H.Res. 676, to provide for a motion to recommit with instructions. **Members are urged to VOTE NO.**

**Suspensions (3 bills)**

- 1) **H.R. 5195** – To provide additional visas for the Afghan Special Immigrant Visa Program, as amended (Rep. Blumenauer – Judiciary)
- 2) **H.Con.Res. 107** – Denouncing the use of civilians as human shields by Hamas and other terrorist organizations in violation of international humanitarian law, as amended (Rep. Ros-Lehtinen – Foreign Affairs)
- 3) **Conference Report on H.R. 3230** – Veterans’ Access to Care through Choice, Accountability, and Transparency Act of 2014 (Rep. Miller (FL) – Veterans’ Affairs)

**H.Res. 676 – Providing for authority to initiate litigation for actions by the President or other executive branch officials inconsistent with their duties under the Constitution of the United States (Rep. Sessions – Rules/House Administration) (One Hour of Debate).** This resolution would authorize the Speaker of the House to initiate an unlimited number of law suits on behalf of the House in a Federal court to seek any appropriate relief regarding the failure of the President, the head of any department or agency, or any other officer or employee of the executive branch, to act in a manner consistent with that official's duties under the Constitution and laws of the United States with respect to implementation of any provision of the Affordable Care Act, or any other related provision of law.

With only two legislative days left until the five-week August district work period begins, House Republicans continue to ignore critical legislative priorities and are focusing their attention on a partisan and political lawsuit that will waste time and taxpayers’ dollars. While millions of Americans are waiting for Congress to take action to create jobs, raise the minimum wage, fix our broken immigration system, address the humanitarian crisis at the border, and restore emergency unemployment insurance, House Republicans are instead pursuing a political lawsuit that the American people don’t support.

House Republicans continue to waste millions of taxpayer dollars on frivolous lawsuits (\$2.3 million spent defending the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)), political witch-hunts (\$3.3 million spent on the Select Committee on Benghazi) and fruitless efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act (an estimated \$79 million spent on the more than 50 votes to repeal or undermine the law). Taken together with the

broader economic effects of their shutdown of the U.S. government and subsequent downgrade of the nation's credit rating, House Republicans have squandered over \$25 billion on political stunts.

House Democrats aren't the only ones who recognize this partisan gimmickry as merely another in a long line of Republicans shirking their responsibility to govern – a majority of the American public agree that the lawsuit is a political stunt and will result in more wasteful spending. Additionally, numerous conservative legal scholars have voiced their opposition to the tactic. Andrew C. McCarthy, former Bush Justice Department Prosecutor, has called the plan "feckless" and "a classic case of assuming the pose of meaningful action while in reality doing nothing." Further, he points out, "After all, how hard is it to get a bunch of congressional Republicans to agree that punting to the courts is easier than rolling up their sleeves and doing their jobs?"

At a time when our nation is facing serious challenges that require Congress to act, it is irresponsible to focus on partisan gimmickry at the expense of making real progress. Democrats are ready to tackle the pressing challenges facing our country and we hope the Republican Majority will abandon this partisan maneuver and instead work with us to address critical legislation before the House adjourns for the August District Work Period. **Members are urged to VOTE NO.**

**H.R. 935 – Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act (Rep. Gibbs – Transportation and Infrastructure) (One Hour of Debate).** This bill would amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and Clean Water Act (CWA) to prohibit the EPA or a state government from requiring a permit for the use of pesticides near navigable waters.

This is the same legislation that failed under suspension of the Rules on Monday.

## **TOMORROW'S OUTLOOK**

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule for Thursday, July 31: The House will meet at 9:00 a.m. for legislative business. The House is expected to consider [H.R. 5230](#) – Supplemental Appropriations to Address the Southwest Border Crisis (Rep. Rogers (KY) – Appropriations) (Subject to a Rule). The House may also consider legislation related to the Highway Trust Fund.

### **The Daily Quote**

"While imposing tough new deportation rules on children fleeing Central America, the border crisis bill unveiled by House Republicans on Tuesday stands out most for the lack of new money provided to hire more immigration judges and to help the unaccompanied minors get legal representation. All departments would get less money than Senate Democrats and President Barack Obama have proposed. But the discrepancy here — when compared to the Senate bill filed last week — is stark... What makes the difference most striking is that Republicans are calling for a greatly expedited deportation process with strict deadlines that will require a much faster turnaround for each case. Children crossing the U.S. border from El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala would now be subject to an immigration court hearing that must occur not more than seven days after they are screened by child welfare officials. And the judge would have to make a ruling within 72 hours after the conclusion of that proceeding. Putting aside the policy questions, longtime observers of the immigration court system say this will be an immense procedural and administrative challenge from a practical standpoint."

- Politico, 7/30/2014